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ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET 2B

9150 Social Studies 9
Module 2

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When you are registered for distance learning courses, you are expected to regularly submit completed assignments for correction. Try to submit each section of assignments as soon as you complete it. Do not submit more than one Assignment Booklet in one subject at the same time. Before submitting your section assignments or your Assignment Booklet, please check the following:

- Are all the assignments completed? If not, explain why.
- Has your work been reread to ensure accuracy in spelling and details?
- Is the booklet cover filled out and the correct module label attached?

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SOCIAL STUDIES 9

Module 2
The American Economy

Assignment Booklet 2B

Learning Technologies Branch

Alberta LEARNING

FOR TEACHER'S USE ONLY

Summary

	Total Possible Marks	Your Mark
Section 4 Assignment	25	
Final Module Assignment	25	
	50	

Teacher's Comments

This document is intended for	
Students	✓
Teachers	✓
Administrators	
Parents	
General Public	
Other	

Social Studies 9
Module 2: The American Economy
Assignment Booklet 2B
Learning Technologies Branch
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ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET 2B
SOCIAL STUDIES 9 – MODULE 2
THE AMERICAN ECONOMY

Your mark on this module will be determined by how well you do your assignments in the Assignment Booklets.

Work slowly and carefully. If you are having difficulties, go back and review the appropriate section.

There are two section assignments in this Assignment Booklet. The total value of these assignments is 50 marks. The value of each assignment is stated in the left margin.

Be sure to proofread the assignment carefully.

Section 3 Assignment: The Business of Government in Business

25

Read all parts of your assignment carefully and record your answers in the appropriate places.

For each of the following, select the **best** answer. Circle the letter of your choice.

8

1. A business that has many investors but acts a single unit with a single voice is known as a

   A. trust
   B. partnership
   C. corporation
   D. proprietorship

2. Inspecting labour or management activities, mediating labour disputes, and legislating labour back to work are examples of

   A. arbitration
   B. anti-trust laws
   C. union intervention
   D. government intervention

3. The role of government in business in the United States is based on the belief that some regulation

   A. by central planning is necessary
   B. of business practices is necessary
   C. of corporations, but not of small businesses, is necessary
   D. of production, but not of working conditions, is necessary

4. Which economic action is the best example of the formation of a trust?

   A. A railway company invests capital in a steel-making corporation.
   B. A group of sugar companies work together to control the price of sugar.
   C. A group of investors join together to form a large steel-making corporation.
   D. A coal-mining corporation sells its stock to another coal-mining corporation.

5. In what ways do trusts contradict the spirit of free enterprise?

   A. Trusts restrict free competition.
   B. Trusts increase profits greatly.
   C. Trusts decrease demand for products.
   D. Trusts give too much power to the government.

6. In a capitalist economy, one of the main purposes of the stock market is to

   A. increase the regulation of business by government
   B. provide an opportunity to raise capital for corporations
   C. provide an opportunity to make money for government
   D. increase the selection of goods and services for consumers

7. In the business cycle, a long period of weak consumer demand and buying, resulting in a stagnant economy, is referred to as a period of

   A. recovery
   B. recession
   C. prosperity
   D. depression

8. A teacher collected the following four statements from a grade nine social studies class describing Roosevelt's New Deal.

   Statement 1: It aimed to bring about the economic recovery of the United States.
   Statement 2: It was strongly opposed by many conservatives in the United States.
   Statement 3: Its program eliminated private enterprise in the United States.
   Statement 4: It used government intervention to stimulate the economy of the United States.

   Which of these statements about the New Deal are correct?

   A. 1, 2, 3
   B. 1, 2, 4
   C. 1, 3, 4
   D. 2, 3, 4

6

9. In Module 1, you discovered that in a true market economy the government would not become involved in business; it would leave things to be decided by the market itself. However, in Section 3 of Module 2, you have found that even in a market economy the government sometimes sees fit to intervene in the economy.

   In the assignment for Section 2, you read about a labour-management dispute at ABC Mobiles Ltd. Use the knowledge you have gained in this section about the business of government in business to answer the following questions, which relate to the role of government in the ABC Mobiles Ltd. labour-management dispute.

   a. Is it in the government's best interest to have the plant operating or closed down? Why?

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   b. If there is a strike, what government assistance might some of the workers want?

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   c. At what point do you think the government should become involved in the dispute?

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

8

10. Governments attempt to act in the best interests of their citizens. Governments encourage businesses, investment, and high levels of employment; however, on a daily basis, businesses do not like government involvement in their affairs.

Choose **two** of the following situations and, for each, state

a. whether the government should get involved in the situation
b. why the government should or should not become involved
c. what action the government should take if it does become involved

Situation A: At Westmark Industries Ltd., four engineers (in their fifties) are being fired to make room for four newly graduated engineers who the company states are better qualified and more knowledgeable in their respective fields.

Situation B: Clean and Shine Domestic Products International plans on importing, distributing, and selling a new product, "Multicleanse." This product kills germs and disinfects on contact, but it may produce a poisonous gas when mixed with other products.

Situation C: Newlight Manufacturers Ltd. is closing its Canadian plant and building a new one in the suburbs of Mexico City.

Situation D: NorcoPower, the company that supplies electrical power to the city of Midwichton, decides to increase the cost of power by 30 percent in order to increase its profits. This will cost the average homeowner an additional $25 per month.

Situation E: A union for local truckers is planning to block all highways into the city as a protest in response to the government increasing the gasoline tax by 10 cents a litre.

Situation _____

a. _____

_____

b. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

c. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Situation _____

a. _____

_____

b. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

c. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

3

11. Will Rogers said that "The business of government is to keep the government out of business... that is unless business needs government aid." This quotation—while very short—says a great deal about the relationship of business and government in the United States.

    Think about the quotation; then answer the following question.

    Explain in your own words what Will Rogers meant. How does what he said fit into the American idea of a market economy?

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

Section 4 Assignment: Consumers and Consumerism

25

Read all parts of your assignment carefully and record your answers in the appropriate places.

4

1. Explain the difference between the terms *consumer* and *consumerism*.

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

(13)

2. Advertising is an important part of the American free enterprise system. Usually advertisements are designed to inform consumers about the product and to convince consumers to buy the product. Advertisements project characteristics of a quality of life. If people believe and "buy into" these characteristics, they come to believe a particular view of quality of life. This view will likely influence what they buy.

   For this assignment, you will need to find and cut **two** advertisements from a newspaper or magazine. Look for two different types of ads. Attach your advertisements to your Assignment Booklet.

   For each advertisement, answer the following questions.

   a. What is the product or service that the advertisement is promoting?

   b. How does the advertisement try to convince you it is a worthwhile product? Before you answer this question, it may be helpful to review the advertising techniques that were discussed in Activity 5 of this section.

   c. Examine the advertisement and analyse what factors of the good life can be seen in it. For example, what does the ad say about such things as age, clothing, drinking, fun, social acceptance, relationships, or the roles of females and males? Then list the quality-of-life characteristics that the advertisement is promoting.

Advertisement #1

a. _____

b. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

c. _____

Advertisement #2

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

8

3. Imagine you are the host of a television talk show. On your next show, you are going to interview well-known consumer rights activist, Ralph Nader. You are going to question Mr. Nader on the issue of why there is a need for consumer rights protection.

To create your interview, follow these steps:

Step 1: Read about Mr. Nader's views and contributions on pages 109 and 110 of your text, *Made in the USA*. If you have access to a library or to the Internet, you may wish to research further Mr. Nader's views and contributions.

Step 2: Compose **three** questions that you think would be interesting to ask your guest. (It would be a good idea to first do a rough copy of your questions.)

Step 3: Next, imagine what Mr. Nader's responses would be to the questions that you have created. You should know enough about his views to have a good idea how he would feel about most consumer issues.

Step 4: Now write out your interview in dialogue form, complete with your questions and your guest's responses. Remember, your dialogue is meant to inform the public on the need for consumer rights protection.

(There is more room for your answer on the next page.)

Submit Assignment Booklet 2B for marking before continuing with Module 3.

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET DECLARATIONS

The Student's Declaration is to be filled in by a student registered at the Alberta Distance Learning Centre. If the student is under 16, the Learning Facilitator's Declaration is to be filled in by the learning facilitator. Failure to complete this page may invalidate the assignment results.

STUDENT'S DECLARATION

- I have followed the instructions outlined in the Student Module Booklet.
- I have completed the activities to prepare myself for the assignments in this Assignment Booklet.
- I completed the assignments in this Assignment Booklet by myself.

_____

Student's Signature

LEARNING FACILITATOR'S DECLARATION

I hereby certify that I have supervised the learning activities completed by _____.

Student's Name

I also certify that to the best of my knowledge the assignments in this Assignment Booklet were completed independently by this student.

_____

Supervisor's Signature

If you, the student or learning facilitator, have any comments or observations regarding this module, write them in the following space.

_____

_____

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Social Studies 9

Assignment Booklet 2B

Module 2

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